

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate upon reconsideration passed H.R. 6331, Medicare Improvement For Patients and Providers Act, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6677–S6798

Measures Introduced: Six bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 3263–3268, and S. Con. Res. 93. **Page S6722**

Measures Reported:

S. 2120, to authorize the establishment of a Social Investment and Economic Development Fund for the Americas to provide assistance to reduce poverty, expand the middle class, and foster increased economic opportunity in the countries of the Western Hemisphere. (S. Rept. No. 110–419)

S. 2688, to improve the protections afforded under Federal law to consumers from contaminated seafood by directing the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program, in coordination with other appropriate Federal agencies, to strengthen activities for ensuring that seafood sold or offered for sale to the public in or affecting interstate commerce is fit for human consumption, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–420)

H.R. 1006, to amend the provisions of law relating to the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–421)

Page S6722

Measures Considered:

Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act: Senate continued consideration of the S. 2731, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S6685–89, S6689–S6705

Rejected:

DeMint Amendment No. 5078, to limit the countries to which Federal financial assistance may

be targeted under this Act. (By 70 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. 175), Senate tabled the amendment).

Page S6685

By 16 yeas to 80 nays (Vote No. 176), Bunning Amendment No. 5073, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S6699–S6705

Pending:

DeMint Amendment No. 5077, to reduce to \$35,000,000,000 the amount authorized to be appropriated to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria in developing countries during the next 5 years.

Page S6685

Kyl Amendment No. 5082, to limit the period during which appropriations may be made to carry out this Act and to create a point of order in the Senate against appropriation to carry out this Act that exceeds the amount authorized for fiscal year 2013.

Pages S6692–93

Gregg Amendment No. 5081, to strike the provision requiring the development of coordinated oversight plans and to establish an independent Inspector General at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator.

Pages S6693–99

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that no second-degree amendments be in order to Gregg Amendment No. 5081.

Pages S6694–99

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that no second-degree amendments be in order to DeMint Amendment No. 5077.

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Subsequently, DeMint Amendment No. 5079 (to Amendment No. 5078), to prevent certain uses of the Global Fund, fell when DeMint Amendment No. 5078 (listed above) was tabled.

Page S6685

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 16, 2008.

Page S6797
D887

Veto Messages:

Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act—Veto Message: By 70 yeas to 26 nays (Vote No. 177), two-thirds of the Senators voting, a quorum being present, having voted in the affirmative, H.R. 6331, to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend expiring provisions under the Medicare Program, to improve beneficiary access to preventive and mental health services, to enhance low-income benefit programs, and to maintain access to care in rural areas, including pharmacy access, upon reconsideration was passed, the objections of the President of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding. **Pages S6705–10**

Stop Excessive Energy Speculation Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that S. 3268, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act, to prevent excessive price speculation with respect to energy commodities, to be introduced by the Majority Leader, on Tuesday, July 15, 2008, that notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate on Tuesday, July 15, 2008, it be considered to have received a first reading. **Page S6797**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Thomas J. Madison, of New York, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration.

Beverly Allen, of Georgia, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2013.

Donald H. Dyal, of Texas, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2013.

Jeffrey B. Rudman, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2013.

Timothy G. Dugan, of Wisconsin, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

Michael G. Considine, of Connecticut, to be United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years.

Benton J. Campbell, of New Jersey, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York for the term of four years.

A. Brian Albritton, of Florida, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida for the term of four years.

David Reid Murtaugh, of Indiana, to be Deputy Director for State, Local, and Tribal Affairs, Office of National Drug Control Policy.

40 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Pages S6718, S6798

Messages from the House:

Pages S6718–19

Measures Referred:

Page S6719

Measures Read the First Time:

Page S6719

Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S6719

Petitions and Memorials:

Pages S6719–22

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S6722–23

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S6723–30

Additional Statements:

Pages S6717–18

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S6730–35

Notices of Hearings/Meetings:

Page S6735

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S6735

Text of H.R. 3221, as Previously Passed:

Pages S6735–97

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—177) **Pages S6685, S6704, S6710**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:01 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S6797–98.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the semiannual "Monetary Policy Report to the Congress", after receiving testimony from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

U.S. FINANCIAL MARKETS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine recent developments in United States financial markets and regulatory responses to those developments, after receiving testimony from Henry M. Paulson, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury; Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; former Representative Christopher Cox, Chairman, United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

SUMMER AIR TRAVEL

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine the 2008 summer air travel season, focusing on addressing congestion and delay, after receiving testimony from Hank Krakowski, Chief Operating Officer, Air Traffic Organization, Federal Aviation Administration, and Tyler Duvall, Acting Under Secretary for Policy,